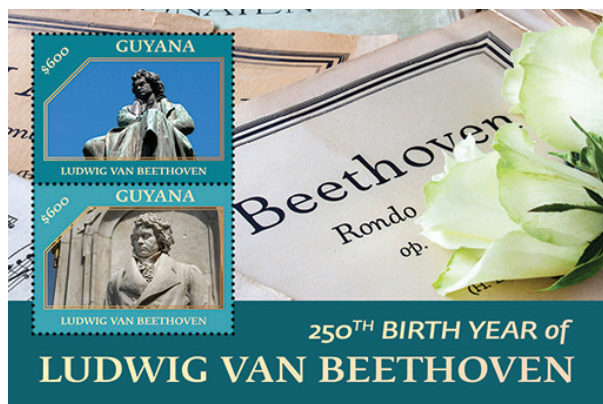
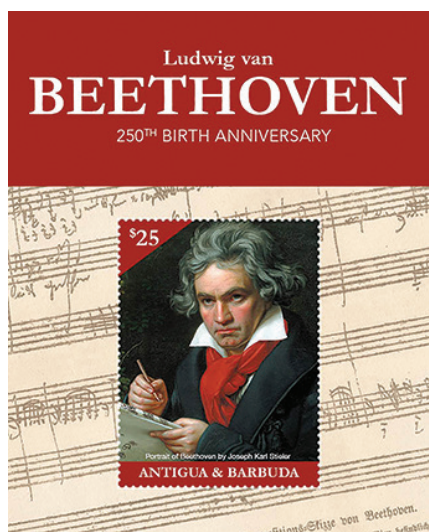


IGPC Creates Beethoven Mini-Omnibus



Born in December 1770, the German composer Ludwig van Beethoven remains one of the most admired composers in the history of Western and classical music. Under the tutelage of his father and other great musicians, the young Beethoven was instantly identified as a child prodigy with potential for greatness.

He composed impressive piano sonatas, concertos, and more, which quickly awarded him a large and growing audience. Beethoven's brilliant symphonies can still be heard today by performers and composers around the world. While celebrations of his 250th birth anniversary have understandably been postponed to 2021, Beethoven's musical genius and passion will always be recognized.

The Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation of New York is leading the way in the philatelic celebration of Ludwig van Beethoven and his music. Last December selected client nations of IGPC launched a mini-Omnibus program that will be part of much broader celebration throughout the coming year.

Demonstrating its international scope, the IGPC Beethoven mini-omnibus consists of stamps and souvenir sheets that were issued by the Government Postal Authorities of the Caribbean Island nations of Antigua & Barbuda and Grenada, the South American country of Guyana, the African nation of The Gambia, and the Oceanic Island nation of Tuvalu.

- Antigua and Barbuda has issued a souvenir sheet and a sheetlet of four official postage stamps that showcase famous portraiture of the composer.

- Grenada, Guyana, and The Gambia have each issued a souvenir sheet with two official postage stamps and a sheetlet of five official postage stamps, with depictions of Beethoven and other musical images.

- Tuvalu has issued a souvenir sheet and sheetlet of five official postage stamps, featuring portraits of the composer and an artistic rendering of a performance on the souvenir sheet.

Stamp collectors and Beethoven enthusiasts are able to purchase these issues from the local Post Offices of the issuing governments, from their local stamp dealer, or from the IGPC website, www.igpc.com.